

DUKE POWER COMPANY  
POWER BUILDING  
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WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
STEAM PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE: AREA 704  
373-4083

December 8, 1981

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: Catawba Nuclear Station  
Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-413

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55e, please find attached Significant Deficiency Report SD 413/81-28.

Very truly yours,

*William O. Parker, Jr.*

William O. Parker, Jr.

*By [Signature]*

RWO/php  
Attachment

cc: Director  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington D. C. 20555

Resident Inspector-NRC  
Catawba Nuclear Station

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## CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION

Report Number: SD 413/81-28

Report Date: December 8, 1981

Facility: Catawba Nuclear Station Unit 1

### Identification of Deficiency:

Radiographic film for reactor vessel CRDM housing welds supplied by Westinghouse does not meet the requirements of ASME Section III, Appendix IX. (CA-81-19)

### Description of Deficiency:

On June 3, 1981, Messrs. W. O. Henry, J. K. Berry, and J. E. Cavender advised Mr. J. Bryant of NRC, Region II, of this deficiency.

On June 24, 1981, Westinghouse determined that thirteen (13) RT films at Catawba exceeded the film density requirement.

### Evaluation of Deficiency:

Westinghouse fabricated a mock-up of the CRDM housing welds and radiographed the mock-up using the same RT technique that was used originally. Artificial discontinuities were introduced in the mock-up which consisted of a 1/32 inch (0.032 inch) groove and a 1/16 inch (0.063 inch) diameter hole.

The essential features of the IQI (penetrameter) and the artificial flaws were clearly discernable in the radiographs of the mock-up.

Westinghouse radiographed the thirteen (13) CRDM housing welds at Catawba. No rejectable indications were detected by this examination.

Indications of porosity of approximately 1/65 inch (0.016 inch) were discernable in some instances on some of the film. This information verified that the radiographic technique is sufficiently sensitive to detect discontinuities which would be considered rejectable for these welds even though all the essential parameters of radiography may not have been met.

In addition, Westinghouse performed a fracture mechanics evaluation of the welds which indicates that a very large flaw would be necessary to cause failure of the weld. (A copy of the Westinghouse report is attached.) Therefore, we conclude that these welds would not have failed.

### Corrective Action:

These radiographs were produced approximately 8 to 10 years ago. We do not anticipate receiving any other radiographs produced by this organization (RDM). All other radiographs, which were produced by RDM were reviewed and no other discrepancies were detected. No other action is planned.

